

Foreign Agricultural Service Global Market Analysis International Production Assessment Division Web: <u>https://ipad.fas.usda.gov</u>

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Commodity Intelligence Report

Mexico Rice 2021/22: Harvested Area Lowered, Similar to 5-Year Average

USDA estimates Mexico's marketing year (MY) 2021/22 rough rice production at 266,000 metric tons (MT), down about 9 percent (27,000 MT) from MY 2020/21's production. Milled rice production is estimated at 183,000 tons, 9 percent (18,000 MT) lower than the previous year. Harvested area is estimated at 42,000 hectares (ha), 11 percent (5,000 ha) lower than the previous year, but similar to the 5-year average from 2016 to 2020 of 42,000 ha. The yield (rough) is estimated slightly higher than the previous year at 6.33 tons per hectare (t/ha) (see Figure 1).

Mexico has two rice crops. Representing about 55 percent of production, the major spring rice crop is mostly planted from April to July and harvested from September to February. The largest producing spring rice states include Campeche, Nayarit, Michoacán, Veracruz, and Colima. Nayarit and Campeche represent about 80 percent of the fall rice crop, which is planted usually from September to February and harvested from February to August (see Figure 2). For MY 2021/22, the fall crop is finishing harvesting. Though both the spring and fall rice crops are mostly irrigated, over 60 percent of the spring crop in Campeche and Nayarit were rainfed during MY 2021/22.

As of May 31, 2022, the Mexican government's *Servicio de Información Agroalimentaria y Pesquera* (SIAP) reported that the rough production for spring rice was 171,511 MT with a yield of 6.16 t/ha based on 27,834 ha of area harvested out of planted area of 28,345 ha. Spring rice crop damage of 511 ha was reported in Campeche and Tabasco.

Based on SIAP data, spring rice planted area in MY 2021/22 was similar to MY 2020/21 in Campeche, Michoacán, and Colima, though spring planted area for MY 2021/22 in Nayarit and Veracruz was below their 5-year average (see Figure 3). In Veracruz, below average rainfall for irrigation before the start of the spring rice planting season may have contributed to lower rice planting (see Figure 4). In Nayarit, irrigation water levels were sufficient, but maintenance work needed on dams to support irrigated rice in Nayarit contributed to lower spring planted area. With average cumulative rainfall occurring during 2021, spring planted area in Campeche was able to reach above the 5-year average at 10,260 ha (see Figure 5). Furthermore, the highest spring rice yields were found in Morelos at 10.46 t/ha (higher than MY 2020/21) and Michoacán at 8.56 t/ha (slightly lower than MY 2020/21) (see Figure 6).

Fall rice MY 2021/22 planted area is slightly higher than fall rice planted area in MY 2020/21 (see Figure 7). SIAP reported that 5,027 ha of the fall rice crop has been harvested out of the 13,967 ha planted. Based on the current fall rice production of 30,260 MT, the yield is currently at 6.02 t/ha.

MY 2022/23 Seasonal Outlook

For the current MY 2022/23 season, rough rice production is forecast at 274,000 MT with milled production forecast at 188,000 MT. Harvested area is forecast at 43,000 ha based on a yield (rough) of 6.37 t/ha. As of May 31, 2022, SIAP is reporting 4,121 ha planted for the MY 2022/23 spring rice crop. Overall, spring rice planted area is expected to slightly increase compared to the previous year based on improved irrigation facilities.



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Source: USDA PSD Online

Figure 1. Annual Mexico Rice Area, Yield, and Production Estimates from 2011-2022. Source: USDA PSD Online.



Spring - Planting: April - July / Harvesting: September – February Fall - Planting: September - February / Harvesting: February - August

Figure 2. Map of Average Spring Rice Production (Left) and Fall Rice Production (Right), 2018-2020 and Crop Calendar. Source: SIAP.



Figure 3. Typically, Campeche has the largest spring rice area, followed by Nayarit. Annual Spring Rice Planted Area, 2016-2021. Source: SIAP.



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Figure 4. Veracruz had below-average rainfall before the start of the MY 2021/22 spring rice planting season. Veracruz Monthly Cumulative Precipitation from May to April in 2019, 2020, 2021, and Normals. Source: UCSB CHIRPS.



Figure 5. Campeche received near normal precipitation during the MY 2021/22 season. Campeche Monthly Cumulative Precipitation from April to December 2021 and Normals. Source: UCSB CHIRPS.



Figure 6. Annual Spring Rice Harvested Yield in Michoacán and Morelos, 1980-2021. Source: SIAP.



Figure 7. Annual Fall Rice Planted Area, 2018-2022. Source: SIAP.

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